



National Partnership for Environmental Priorities (NPEP) Bulletin

Summer 2006

Welcome to the latest edition of the NPEP Bulletin.

The NPEP Bulletin will be delivered to you quarterly to keep you informed of the latest NPEP and waste minimization news and events. Each issue will have a different theme. **This Issue: NPEP Makes Progress.** We distribute the Bulletin electronically in order to minimize waste, conserve resources, and promote the Paperless Office.

Join NPEP Today

Interested in waste min? Want to improve your bottom line while helping the environment? NPEP encourages public and private organizations to form voluntary partnerships with EPA to reduce the use and/or release of any of 31 priority chemicals (PCs). Enroll today:

www.epa.gov/minimize/partnership.htm

Read more about PCs at

www.epa.gov/minimize/chemlist.htm



Information Exchange

Contact the editors with your questions, events, articles, ideas, comments, and suggestions. **We want to hear from you.** Send us your thoughts and contributions today via email or our comments and questions form at

www.epa.gov/minimize/contactus.htm

Upcoming Events:

• **September 18 - 24: National Pollution Prevention (P2) Week.**
More info: www.p2.org

• **September 19 – 21: WASTECON 2006.** More info: www.swana.org

• **September 24 – 28: 2006 ASHES Annual Conference and Healthcare Marketplace.** More info: www.ashes.org

Send us your event today.

Visit the Waste Min Calendar:

www.epa.gov/minimize/calendar.htm

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NPEP Welcomes 100th NPEP Partner: Tinker AFB



The Tinker Pollution Prevention Team receives the 2004 Secretary of Defense Pollution Prevention Team Award.

The NPEP Team is pleased to welcome our 100th partner: **Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.** Tinker set five NPEP goals to reduce priority chemicals (PCs) by December, 2007. Tinker plans to eliminate almost 900 pounds of trifluralin and almost 600 pounds of pendimethalin by replacing two herbicides used on base. Tinker also plans to eliminate over 300 pounds of naphthalene, 7 pounds of cadmium, and 1 pound of mercury by replacing equipment and products like batteries, paints, and solvents.

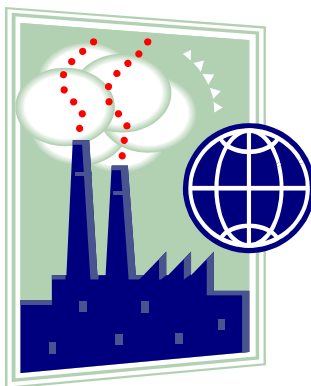
When Tinker was contacted by Tim Townsend and Ryan Rossner of EPA Region 6 about joining NPEP, Bede Ley, Pollution Prevention Manager, discovered that the base was using six PCs. Because Tinker is an Air Force installation, all chemicals used on base are tracked through a hazardous material tracking system, so it was easy to identify potential NPEP activities.

According to Mr. Ley, "Pollution prevention is an active program on the base." He adds that, since 1994, Tinker has reduced the amount of releases it reports to TRI by 92 percent. In 2004, the base won the Secretary of Defense Pollution Prevention Team Award and, in 2005, was awarded the Secretary of Defense Pollution Prevention – Industrial Category Award.

The Air Force Materiel Command is using Tinker AFB as an example for other Air Force installations by encouraging them to join the NPEP program and by crossfeeding information on successes across the command. Mr. Ley reports that the staff at Tinker is excited about being NPEP's 100th partner and hopes that other federal facilities will also join the effort to reduce priority chemicals.

Waste Min News

- **Second Annual NPEP Awards Ceremony: Oct. 19.** See page 3.
- **Priority Chemical Query Tool Available.** See page 3.
- **P2 Week is September 18 – 24:**
www.p2.org
- **The NPEP Team Has Moved.**
See page 3.
- **EPA's Green Vehicle Guide**
Updated: www.epa.gov/greenvehicles



New Partner Spotlight

Region 2

- **Checkpoint Caribbean LTD**

Ponce, Puerto Rico
Targeted Chemical: Lead

- **Eastman Kodak Company**

Rochester, New York
Targeted Chemicals: Lead, Methylene Chloride

- **Lucent Technologies, Inc.**

Murray Hill, New Jersey
Targeted Chemical: Lead

- **Micron Technology Inc.**

Aguadilla, Puerto Rico
Targeted Chemical: Lead

Region 3

- **National Institutes of Health**

Washington, D.C.
Targeted Chemical: Mercury

- **Town of Blacksburg, Virginia**

Targeted Chemical: Lead

- **Transwestern Commercial Services**

Vienna, Virginia
Targeted Chemical: Mercury

Region 4

EMBRAER, Nashville, Tennessee

Targeted Chemical: Methylene Chloride

Region 5

Argonne National Laboratory

Argonne, Illinois

Targeted Chemical: Mercury

Region 6

- **Lufkin Industries, Inc., Foundry & Power Transmission Divisions**

Lufkin, Texas
Targeted Chemical: Mercury

- **Lufkin Industries, Inc., Trailer & Oilfield Divisions**, Lufkin, Texas

Targeted Chemical: Mercury

- **Lufkin Industries, Inc., Gear Repair Facility**, Lufkin, Texas

Targeted Chemical: Mercury

- **Tinker AFB**, Oklahoma

Targeted Chemicals: Pendimethalin, Naphthalene, Trifluralin, Mercury, Cadmium

Region 7

- **3M Company**, Nevada, Missouri

Targeted Chemical: Lead

- **Pfizer Global Manufacturing**

Lincoln, Nebraska

Targeted Chemical: Mercury

Region 8

Nucor, Plymouth, Utah

Targeted Chemical: Mercury

Region 10

Xerox Office Group: Wilsonville

Wilsonville, Oregon

Targeted Chemical: Lead

NPEP Makes Progress

Membership has grown to over 100 partners since NPEP was launched in September, 2002. The majority of our partners are private facilities. Nine federal facilities (including five military installations), two local and one state facility have become NPEP partners.

NPEP partners can be found throughout the U.S. Twenty-five states, as well as Puerto Rico and Washington, D.C., are represented. And, since the publication of our last Bulletin, NPEP now has partners in all 10 EPA regions.

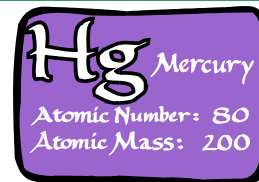
NPEP partners have committed to reducing 16 of the 31 priority chemicals (PCs) targeted for reduction by EPA. PC reduction commitments total over about 3.1 million pounds. NPEP partners have committed to reducing more lead, over 2.9 million pounds, than any other PC. Our partners have also committed to reducing about 5.3 million pounds of other hazardous chemicals such as methylene chloride and chromium.

Thirty NPEP partners have completed their goals, for a total reduction of about 831,000 pounds of PCs and about 2.2 million pounds of other hazardous chemicals.

Since starting NPEP, the NPEP Team has made a lot of progress. This is our fifth issue of the NPEP Bulletin, which we started last year. We started the NPEP Mercury Challenge in October, 2005. And, we plan to hold our second annual NPEP Awards Ceremony in October, 2006.

We recently created the National Challenge Commitment to reduce PCs. This Challenge offers NPEP partners the potential benefit of considering their goals to reduce PCs as satisfying two of the four commitments necessary to join Performance Track.

The NPEP Team is also developing a new Municipalities Program designed to improve municipality-run facilities management. You can read more about this Program in our next issue.



NPEP Mercury Challenge

The NPEP Mercury Challenge was introduced in October, 2005. The Mercury Challenge promotes the voluntary, systematic elimination of mercury-containing equipment from industrial sites. Mercury, a priority chemical, is a highly toxic metal and a documented contaminant of air, land, water, plants, and animals. Exposure to mercury can cause serious health problems.

There are three steps in taking the Mercury Challenge:

1. Join NPEP and commit to a mercury reduction goal through the removal of mercury-containing equipment. If you are already an NPEP partner, you can take the Mercury Challenge by submitting a new goal and completing the following steps.

2. Take the Mercury Challenge Pledge. *Our organization pledges to:*

- *Identify mercury in our facilities and in the products we make.*
- *Replace mercury-containing equipment with non-mercury alternatives.*
- *Dispose of mercury-containing equipment safely.*
- *Establish mercury free purchasing policies.*
- *Inform and educate staff, suppliers, and clients about mercury issues and non-mercury alternatives.*

3. Build and Implement a Mercury Reduction Plan. A Mercury Reduction Plan identifies action items related to the activities in the Mercury Challenge Pledge, such as establishing mercury-free purchasing policies. Your plan should include timelines and a way to measure progress. You can find guidelines and instructions for building your plan on our website.

Take the Mercury Challenge at
www.epa.gov/minimize

Second Annual NPEP Awards Ceremony



The second annual NPEP Awards Ceremony will be held October 19 at The Westin Arlington Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. The awards ceremony will be held in conjunction with the NPEP National Meeting: *Partnering for Success in Sustainability*, on October 20. The National Meeting will feature informational sessions for awardees. We look forward to the opportunity to recognize the efforts of our partners in achieving their NPEP goals. We also anticipate a productive meeting and the chance to share ideas and continue a dialogue with our partners. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/minimize/natlmtg.htm



NPEP Welcomes First Region 8 Partner

The NPEP Team is pleased to welcome our first partner from Region 8: **Nucor**, Plymouth Division, Plymouth, Utah. **Nucor** has committed to recycling 65 pounds of mercury by removing mercury switches from cars destined for recycling at scrap steel recycling mills.

NPEP Welcomes First Region 10 Partner

The NPEP Team is pleased to welcome our first partner from Region 10: **Xerox** Office Group, Wilsonville, Oregon. **Xerox** has committed to eliminating 118 pounds of lead by switching to lead-free solder in the manufacture of circuit boards.

Priority Chemical Query Tool Available

The new Priority Chemical Query Tool was posted for public use in June. It is a powerful tool used to retrieve and manipulate data on Priority Chemicals (PCs) reported to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) by industrial facilities. You can use the Query Tool to access information such as the amount of PCs reported in your state, which PCs were reported in your region, and which industry sectors report the most PCs. Visit the Query Tool on the Waste Min website at www.epa.gov/querytool



NPEP Partner Update

Sentara: Williamsburg Community Hospital recently achieved their NPEP goal of eliminating 41 pounds of mercury by replacing 172 mercury-containing sphygmomanometers (blood pressure cuffs). Williamsburg's biggest challenge in meeting their goal was funding. Williamsburg plans to become virtually mercury-free this year. Read the Williamsburg Success Story at www.epa.gov/minimize/success.htm

The NPEP Team Has Moved

Our new address is:

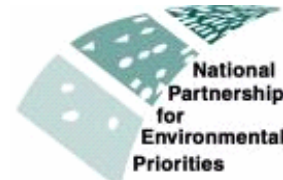
Via U.S. Mail

U.S. EPA
National Partnership for Environmental Priorities (NPEP) Coordinator
Waste Minimization Branch
OSW/HWMMD
(5302P)
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20460

Via Delivery Service

U.S. EPA
National Partnership for Environmental Priorities (NPEP) Coordinator
HWMMD
Sixth Floor, Room N6780
Two Potomac Yard (North Building)
2733 S. Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202

Director's Corner



Jim Berlow

Director, Hazardous Waste Minimization and Management Division

I am very pleased to welcome not only Tinker Air Force Base as our 100th partner, but also the 17 other partners who have joined us since the last NPEP Bulletin went out. As we prepare for our Second Annual NPEP Awards Ceremony, it is only natural to reflect on NPEP, our successes, and the progress we have made in the last few years. We should all be proud of the fact that NPEP partners have committed to reducing about 3.1 million pounds of hazardous chemicals.

We should view our success as a sign that we are on the right track and as a reason to strive to accomplish even more. Our work to date serves as a firm foundation on which to build. We should try to double our membership both in NPEP and in the Mercury Challenge. I would like to see more states represented in NPEP. I would also like to see more of the 31 priority chemicals being reduced through NPEP partnerships. I'm sure we can achieve these goals by continuing to work together.

Contact Us to Subscribe to the NPEP Bulletin:

www.epa.gov/minimize/contactus.htm

Visit the National Waste Minimization website today.
www.epa.gov/wastemin

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